

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please replace the prior listing of claims with the following listing.

1. (Currently amended) A screen system for underground wells, the screen system comprising a screen

wherein the screen comprises a plurality of slots; and

a mechanism capable of varying the size of the said slots, the mechanism comprising a motorised actuator.

2. (Original) A screen system according to claim 1, wherein the screen system comprises a pair of screens comprising a slotted inner screen disposed within a slotted outer screen.

3. (Original) A screen system according to claim 2, further comprising at least one external screen shroud.

4. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 2, wherein the inner screen is rotatable relative to the outer screen.

5. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 2, wherein the inner screen comprises a substantially cylindrical member having a pair of ends wherein one end is rotatable relative to the other end by operation of the said mechanism.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the inner and outer screens comprises a plurality of longitudinally arranged members and at least one transversely arranged member which combine to provide the slots in the interstices therebetween.
8. (Original) A screen system according to claim 7, wherein rotation of one end of the said at least one screen causes an end of the longitudinally arranged members to rotate relative to the other end of the longitudinally arranged members such that the slot size is capable of being varied.
9. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 3, wherein at least one screen or screen shroud is provided with electromechanical sensors.
10. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 9, wherein the inner screen is rotated under the control of a controller which is further connected to the electromechanical sensors.
11. (Original) A screen system according to claim 10, wherein the controller employs a solids prediction model to calculate a control action.
12. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 10, wherein the controller further employs a plugging tendency model to calculate a control action.
13. (Previously presented) A screen system according to claim 3, wherein the external screen shroud is attachable to the outer screen.

14. (Original) A screen system according to claim 13, wherein the external screen shroud is perforated.

15. (Currently amended) A method of fluid flow control and/or sand production control in a well, the method comprising the steps of placing a screen having a plurality of slots in the well and varying the size of the slots by means of a mechanism comprising a motorised actuator.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 156, wherein the mechanism is capable of rotating a first portion of the screen relative to a second portion of the screen to vary the size of the said slots.

18. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein a controller controls the actuation of the rotation mechanism.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the controller is provided with data inputs from one or more sensors provided downhole.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein the sensors are mounted on one or more portions of the screen system.

21. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 19, wherein the sensors are electromechanical sensors.
22. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 18, wherein the controller employs a solids prediction model to calculate a control action.
23. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the controller further employs a plugging tendency model to calculate a control action.